

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for allocating processing resources, the method using a processor coupled to a display device and to a user input device, the method comprising:

allocating the processing resources by

displaying a list of processing resources on the display device, wherein the processing resources comprise at least one of a hardware processor and a software program;

accepting signals from the user input device to indicate the configuration of a selected processing resource of the processing resources; and configuring the selected processing resource.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising: accepting signals from the user input device to indicate first and second processors for configuration; and automatically coupling the first processor to the second processor via a digital network.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising accepting first signals from the user input device to indicate a processing platform to be used; accepting second signals from the user input device to indicate a software component to be installed; and automatically installing the software component onto the processing platform.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the software component is a server component.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the software component is a client component.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for providing configurable resources to create a processing environment, the system comprising  
a configurable communication link;  
a plurality of processing devices coupled to the communication link; and  
a plurality of software programs coupled to the processing devices, wherein the processing environment comprises the communication link, at least one of the processing devices and at least one of the software programs.

9. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 8, further comprising:  
a user interface coupled to the system; and  
a controller configured to accept commands from the user interface to configure a second system and configured to configure the second system in response to the commands.

10. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein the system is configured to automatically manage licensing of a one of the software programs.

11. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein the system is configured to support visual construction of the processing environment via the user interface.

12. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the system is configured to support remote administration of the processing environment.

13. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for creating a computing environment by using a computer user interface~~, the method employing a computer user interface coupled to a display screen and to an input device for generating signals in response to interactions of a user, the method comprising:

accepting a first signal from the input device which enables the user to specify a type of operating system for use in ~~[[the]]~~ a computing environment;  
accepting a second signal from the input device which enables the user to specify a type of processor for use within the computing environment;  
activating an active operating system, wherein the active operating system is an operating system of the specified type to run in the computing environment; and  
activating an active processor, wherein the active processor is a processor of the specified type to run in the computing environment.

14. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
displaying the computing environment, wherein the computing environment comprises the active processor and the active operating system.

15. (Currently Amended) In a computer network, a computer user interface ~~system that provides one or more computing environments~~, the computer user interface system comprising:

a client, wherein the client comprises  
a processor,  
a browser, and,  
a display screen; and  
a computer user interface displayed on the display screen, the computer user interface having instructions for selecting one or more types of processing units, operating systems and software programs, wherein the computer user interface is configured to, in response to user selection of a type of processing unit, use the processor to direct the browser to display a selected processing unit of the types of processing units which is active in ~~[[the]]~~ a computing environment;

the computer user interface is configured to, in response to user selection of a type of operating system, use the processor to direct the browser to display a selected operating system of the types of operating systems which is running in the computing environment;  
the computer user interface is configured to, in response to user selection of a type of software program, use the processor to direct the browser to display a selected software program of the types of software programs which is running in the computing environment,  
the browser displays the computing environment, and  
the computing environment comprises the selected processing unit, the selected operating system and the selected software program.

16 (Currently Amended) A computer user interface ~~for creating a computing environment, the computer user interface~~ comprising:

first instructions for enabling a user to specify a type of operating system from at least one type of operating system for use in ~~[[the]]~~ a computing environment; and  
second instructions for enabling the user to specify a type of processor from at least one type of processor for use in the computing environment, wherein the computer user interface is configured to create the computing environment, and  
the computing environment comprises the at least one type of operating system and the at least one type of processor.

17. (Previously Amended) The computer user interface of claim 16, further comprising:

third instructions for enabling a user to specify a type of software program.

18. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
displaying an active software program for the computing environment in response to user selection.

19. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
accepting a signal, wherein the signal allows the user to shut down the computing  
environment.

20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
accepting a signal which allows the user to specify a new machine to run in the  
computing environment, to activate the new machine and to display the  
computing environment having the active machine.

21. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
displaying a plurality of operating system types for selection by the user.

22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
displaying a plurality of processor types for selection by the user.

23. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the displaying of  
the plurality of operating system types occurs prior to the accepting the first signal which  
enables the user to specify the type of operating system.